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# CRIME

## IN MONTANA

### 1987 ANNUAL REPORT



MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL

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CRIME IN MONTANA

1987

ANNUAL REPORT

Compiled by the  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA CENTER  
OF THE  
MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL  
Dr. Gordon Browder, Chairman

August, 1988

Montana Board of Crime Control  
303 N. Roberts  
Helena, MT 59620



## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

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Mike A. Lavin, Administrator, Montana Board of Crime Control  
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Dara L. Smith, Statistical Technician

Data used in preparation of this publication were compiled at the Criminal Justice Data Center of the Montana Board of Crime Control.

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FORWARD

Crime in Montana is an annual report of the Montana Board of Crime Control's Criminal Justice Data Center. It is a statistical representation of the criminal activity occurring in our state during the past year and includes a section on the Montana Youth Courts.

During the state's 1985 legislative session a new focus began to emerge for criminal justice; a concern for the impact crime has on its victims. Each one of the 56,925 serious crimes reported to our law enforcement agencies last year represents at least one more person to suffer from the trauma of being a crime victim.

This publication is only the first step in documenting the crime problem in our state and it would not be possible without the voluntary support of the law enforcement agencies who contribute the data.



Mike A. Lavin, Administrator  
Montana Board of Crime Control





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**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987**

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**SECTION  
ONE**

**M.U.C.R.  
REPORTING  
PROGRAM**

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**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987****INTRODUCTION**

This report presents the most complete and accurate information currently available about crime in the State of Montana. It contains an extensive collection of facts and detailed analyses of the prevalence of different types of crime, crime trends and offenses known and arrests made by law enforcement. It is a summary of the nature, extent and location of crime in the state.

The Montana Uniform Crime Reporting program addresses the informational needs of law enforcement administrators, planners, legislators, and local government officials. It also affords citizens an opportunity to assess the state's crime situation.

**HISTORY**

The Board of Crime Control has been collecting data on criminal activity, arrests and offenses since early in the 1970's. The collection process started with a simple reporting system by individual police agencies in various parts of the state on a trial basis, which resulted in limited data giving only a vague picture of the nature of crime in Montana.

Working in conjunction with federal data collection agencies and other state agencies an expanded process emerged. Initially, there were only a handful of police agencies involved. Today, there are over 100 reporting agencies.

The Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (MUCR) system evolved from and continues to comply with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. The national UCR program came into existence in 1930 as a result of the need for a nationwide and uniform compilation of law enforcement statistics. The Committee of Uniform Crime Records of the International Association of Chiefs of Police developed the UCR program, and Congress passed legislation on June 11, 1930 authorizing the FBI to act as the clearinghouse for crime information. In the late 1960's, with the availability of funds from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, individual states began assuming responsibility for direct collection of the UCR data. The number of law enforcement agencies participating in the UCR and related programs grew from 400 in 1930 to over 15,000 by 1981.

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Montana became involved in the national UCR reporting program in September, 1978, when the FBI transferred data collection responsibility from its UCR reporting division to the Montana Board of Crime Control's Criminal Justice Data Center. This transfer has enhanced crime data collection by giving the state more control over crime reporting, closer contact with law enforcement agencies, and more detailed information about crime.

### **TODAY'S PROCESS**

#### **General Overview**

The crime data contained in this report is initiated by the police departments, sheriff offices and other criminal justice agencies throughout the state. Criminal justice agencies that represent 94.9% of the state population are reporting criminal activity in their jurisdiction. 103 law enforcement agencies are diligently filling out reports and sending them to the central collection point, the Montana Board of Crime Control's Criminal Justice Data Center. The effort put forth by these agencies is most commendable.

#### **MUCR**

The MUCR program is comprised of two distinct data base systems. The Offense and Activity system summarizes the types of crimes being committed, unfounded and actual offenses, property stolen and/or recovered by type and values, time and location of offenses, the status of each case, and the number of law enforcement officers killed or assaulted. The Custody system, now classified Arrest/Custody, records the types of arrests made, and the sex, race, and age of the person arrested. In 1986 the Custody system was expanded to collect information on people being held in jails throughout the state.

The transfer of responsibility for data collection from the FBI to the MUCR system has encouraged local law enforcement participation because the MUCR system provides contributors with both monthly and annual summaries of data for the Offense and Activity and Arrest/Custody information systems. Data is furnished voluntarily by county law enforcement agencies, local police departments, and other government agencies. Law enforcement agencies representing approximately 95 percent of the Montana population provided data in 1987.

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**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987**

In addition to the monthly reports to contributors, other reports and publications are compiled from MUCR data. These include the annual Crime in Montana publication and a variety of special reports requested by private and public groups. The MUCR system data is also sent to the FBI for inclusion in the annual FBI publication Crime in the United States.

**THE FUTURE OF MUCR**

The FBI and the National Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) initiated a joint effort to upgrade the national UCR program. Over the past several years an extensive effort has been made between these two Federal agencies and the various state programs dealing with UCR. The FBI's UCR program has not been changed since its inception in the 1930's.

The UCR program has always been known as a summary reporting system wherein the various police agencies around the country supply summary data to the FBI which is then published in the annual publication known as Crime in the United States. Although this publication has been known as an excellent resource document it was felt that something more was needed. This effort led to the ``Enhanced UCR Program`` which will be expanded from the summary based system to an Incident Based System called ``IBR`` for Incident Based Reporting.

The concept of the new IBR program is to capture information relating to an incident and be able to link various components together providing a clearer picture of what is happening with crime across the country. The new system will add information relating to the victim as well as the offender, which has never been a part of the UCR program. This new information should provide the public as well as law enforcement with an improved concept in the nature of criminal incidents.

Montana is one of seventeen (17) states participating in the program with the FBI and BJS. Hopefully, within the next year a number of local law enforcement agencies will join with the state in piloting the new IBR system for the State of Montana.

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**OBJECTIVES**

The fundamental objectives of the Montana Uniform Crime Reporting program are:

- (1) To inform the Governor, Attorney General, Legislature, other governmental officials and the public as to the nature of the crime problem in Montana.
- (2) To provide law enforcement administrators with criminal statistics for administrative and operational use.
- (3) To determine who commits crimes by age, sex, and race in order to find the proper focus for crime prevention and enforcement.
- (4) To provide base data and statistics to help measure the workload of the criminal justice system.
- (5) To provide base data and statistics for research to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and performance of criminal justice agencies.

**DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions are included to assist the reader in fully understanding the information provided in this publication:

**Offenses Reported or Known by Police** - Offenses or criminal acts that were reported, or became known, to law enforcement as having occurred during the reporting period.

**Unfounded or Baseless Offenses** - Offenses which are determined to be unfounded, false, or baseless as the result of subsequent information, action, or investigation.

**Actual Offenses** - The number of actual, verified offenses which is the difference between the Offenses Reported or Known and the Unfounded or Baseless Offenses.

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**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987**

**Cleared by Arrest** - For MUCR purposes, an offense can be cleared by arrest or by exceptional means. An offense is cleared by arrest when an offender is identified, there is enough evidence to charge him, and he is actually taken into custody. The arrest of one person may clear several offenses and the arrest of several persons may clear one offense. When some element beyond law enforcement control precludes formal charges against the offender, such as the victim's refusal to prosecute or the death of the offender, an offense can be cleared by exceptional means. No distinction is made between cleared by arrest and cleared by exceptional means in this publication.

**Crime Index** - The crimes of willful homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny/theft, and motor vehicle theft were selected for use as an index on the basis of their serious nature, their frequency of occurrence and the reliability of reporting from citizens to law enforcement agencies. The crime index is the total number of these offenses that come to the attention of law enforcement agencies.

**Crime Rate** - The crime rate indicates the number of Index Crimes per unit of population, generally per 100,000 population. It should be noted that the rate only takes into consideration the numerical factor of population and does not incorporate any of the other elements which contribute to the amount of crime in a given community.

The crime rate is obtained by dividing the total number of Index Crimes by the population or estimated population and multiplying the answer by 100,000:

$$\frac{\text{Number of Index Crimes}}{\text{Population of Law Enforcement Jurisdiction}} \times 100,000 = \text{Crime Rate}$$

The population data used in this report are provided by the State Census and Economic Information Center and the FBI. The figures are based on the latest population projections available.

**Updated Data** - Any data published here concerning figures for prior years supersede those in previous reports.

**Percent Rounding** - Percentages shown in this publication may not add to 100 due to rounding.

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**MUCR CRIME CLASSIFICATIONS**

Reporting uniformity between law enforcement agencies depends upon the proper classification of offenses by the agencies. The MUCR system follows the basic guidelines for classifying offenses as formulated by the Uniform Crime Reporting Section of the FBI. It must be emphasized that the following classifications are not meant to be legal definitions of offenses. The classifications may differ considerably in some cases from the legal definitions as they are written in the Montana Code Annotated. The purpose of the FBI classifications is to establish a uniform statewide and national system for classifying similar offenses even though legal definitions may vary from state to state.

**THE SEVEN MAJOR OFFENSES**

Seven crimes are recognized as being the most serious crimes in our society and the most likely to be reported to law enforcement. These are called the Seven Major Crimes, or the Part I Offenses. The MUCR system divides these crimes into 'Crimes of Violence' and 'Crimes Against Property':

**Part I Offenses - The Seven Major Crimes****Crimes of Violence .....**

**Homicide** - The willful killing of one human being by another.

**Rape** - The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will and all attempts to commit forcible rape.

**Robbery** - The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of a person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

**Aggravated Assault** - An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

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**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987****Crimes against Property .....**

**Burglary** - The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

**Larceny/Theft** - The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away the possession of another.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** - The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Many Part II Offenses are reported in Crime in Montana. They encompass other crimes which, although serious, are not part of the Seven Major Crimes. These Part II Offenses are listed below:

**Part II Offenses**

Negligent Manslaughter	Vandalism
Other Assaults	Weapons
Arson	Prostitution
Forgery and Counterfeiting	Sex Offenses
Fraud	Narcotic Drug Laws
Embezzlement	Gambling
Stolen Property	Offenses Against the Family

**CRIME FACTORS**

The amount and type of crime reported in Crime in Montana is based upon the number of reported offenses and does not measure those offenses unknown to the law enforcement community. A considerable volume of crime is not reported to law enforcement agencies. Many crimes are unreported because victims are unaware they have been victimized or have themselves been participants in illegal activity. Unidentified crimes can include, but are not limited to, buying stolen property, fraud, embezzlement, and shoplifting. Illegal activity requiring victim participation can include prostitution and narcotics activity. Other reasons crimes are unreported are that victims believe there is very little that can be done to catch the perpetrator, they fear the publicity of a police investigation, or the crime was too personal or private to report.

The following factors can also influence the type and volume of criminal activity in the state:

- Density and size of the community;
- Demographic characteristics of the population;
- Economic status of the population;
- Influence on population stability by seasonal workers,  
tourism, etc.;
- Educational, recreational, and religious characteristics of the  
population;
- Effective strength of local law enforcement agencies;
- Policies of prosecuting officials and the courts; and,
- Public attitudes toward laws and law enforcement.

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CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

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SECTION

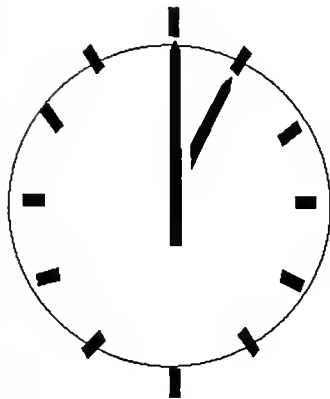
TWO

Crime  
In  
Montana

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# 1987 MONTANA CRIME CLOCK



**ONE  
VIOLENT  
CRIME  
EVERY**  
7 HRS 18 MIN

**ONE  
HOMICIDE  
EVERY**  
12 DAYS 13 HRS

**ONE  
RAPE  
EVERY**  
2 DAYS 11 HRS

**ONE  
ROBBERY  
EVERY**  
1 DAY 17 HRS

**ONE  
AGGRAVATED  
ASSAULT  
EVERY**  
8 HRS 15 MIN

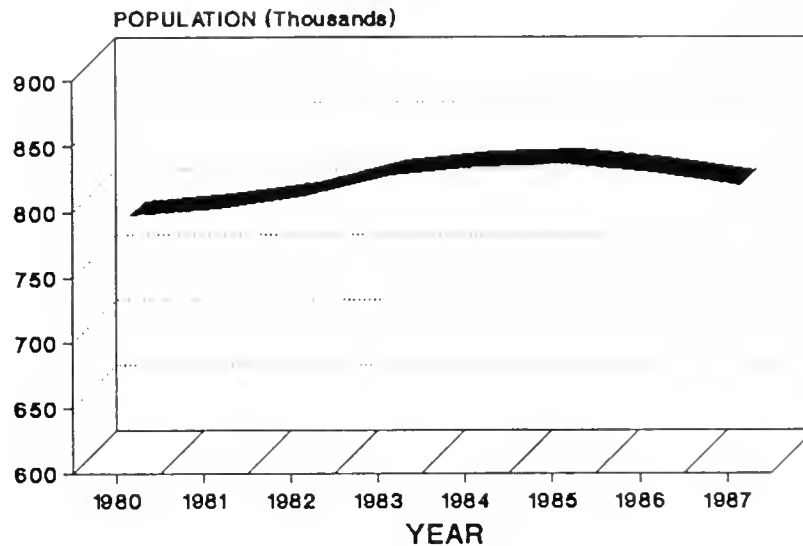
**ONE  
PROPERTY  
CRIME  
EVERY**  
15 MIN. 44 SEC.

**ONE  
BURGLARY  
EVERY**  
1 HR 20 MIN

**ONE  
LARCENY  
EVERY**  
20 MIN 58 SEC

**ONE  
MOTOR  
VEHICLE  
THEFT  
EVERY**  
15 MIN 1 SEC

## POPULATION



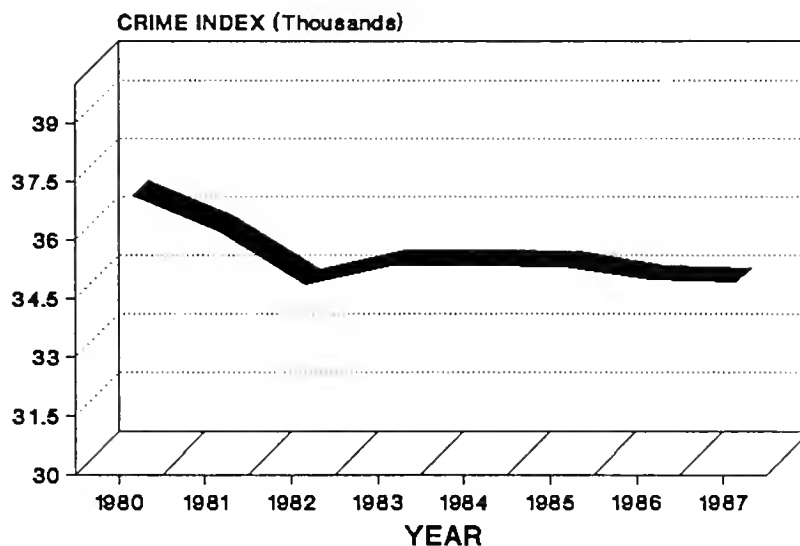
Population is estimated in most years based on FBI and state projections. The chart shows a steady growth over the first ten years shown, with a slight decline between 1985 and 1987. The population of 1976 was set at 753,000 and increased to 809,000 in 1987.

Population comparisons are used throughout the text to show crime rate, number of crimes per 100,000 population, and other analyses of crime in Montana.



## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

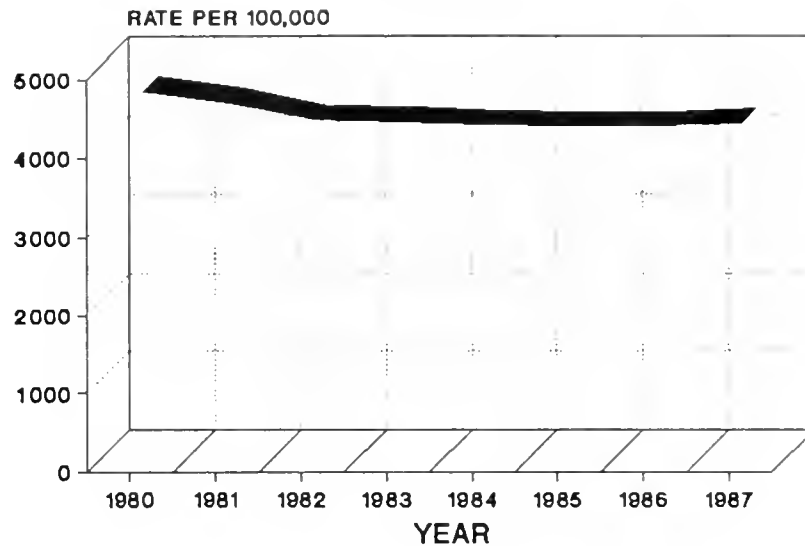
## INDEX



Total crime illustrated includes only the seven (7) major crimes: 1) homicide; 2) rape; 3) robbery; 4) assault; 5) burglary; 6) larceny; and, 7) motor vehicle theft.

The seven (7) major crimes accounted for 34,551 offenses in 1987. Crimes of Violence numbered 921 at 2.7 percent of the total, while crimes against property were reported at 33,630 which is 97.3 percent of the total.

## RATE

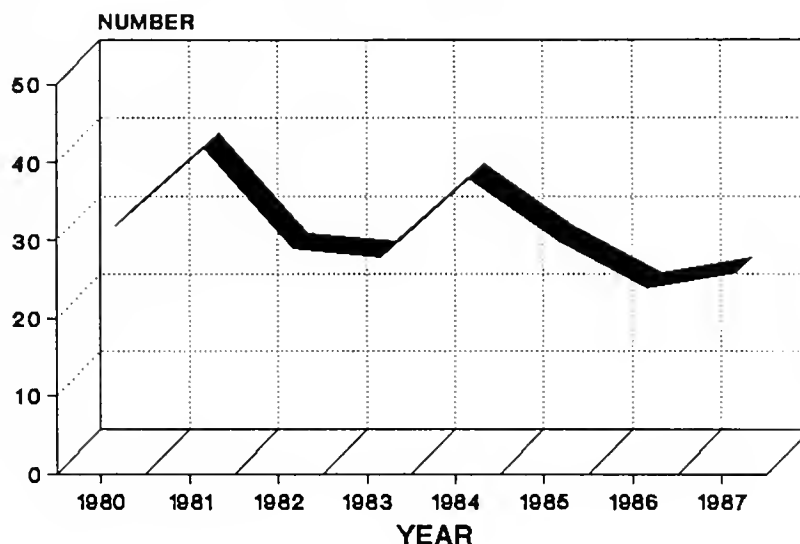


Crime rate is a standard of measurement used to provide a uniform process of statistical analysis of crime in any given area. The crime rate is useful when comparing jurisdictions with unequal populations.

The chart above indicates a trend declining over the past eight (8) years. The base year of 1980 had a crime rate of 4,678.3 compared to the 4,270.8 rate in 1987. The low in 1985 actually measured 4,231.0 and in 1980 the high was 4,678.3. The calculated average would be in the 4,346.3 range.

## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## HOMICIDE



Homicide is defined as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another, except in those cases classified as justifiable homicides. Under the UCR definitions, justifiable homicides are specifically limited to the killing of an offender by a police officer in the line of duty or the killing of a felon by a private citizen. This definition does not take into consideration the findings of a coroner's jury or court. Suicides are not defined as homicides under UCR. Attempts to commit homicide are classified as aggravated assault.

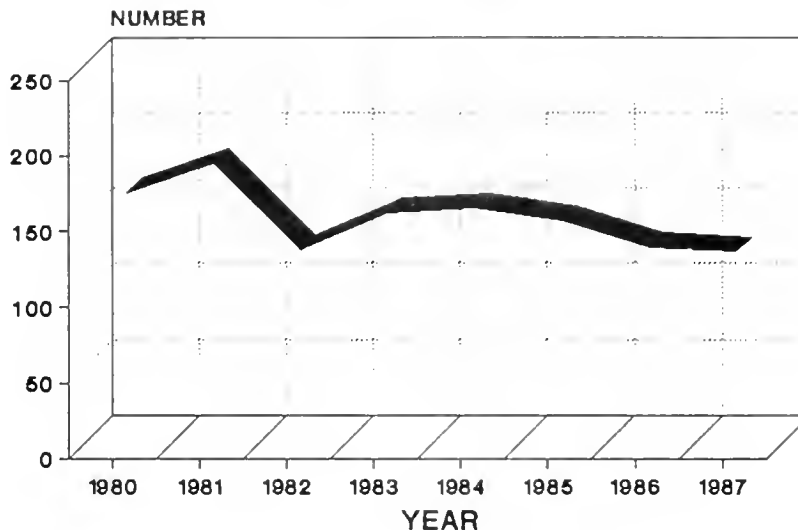
## 1987 SUMMARY

A total of 24 homicides was reported in 1987. During this year, the number of homicides increased 0.09 percent compared to those reported in 1986.

There were 19 homicides cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, for a clearance rate of 79.2 percent statewide.

Homicides accounted for 2.6 percent of all violent crimes and .07 percent of the total crime index. The homicide rate in Montana was .3 per 10,000 population.

## RAPE



Forcible Rape is defined as the carnal knowledge of a female through the use or threat of force. Assaults to commit rape or attempts to commit rape are included in this category. One offense is counted for each victim of rape. Statutory rapes and other types of sexual assaults are not counted as rapes under the UCR program.

### 1987 SUMMARY

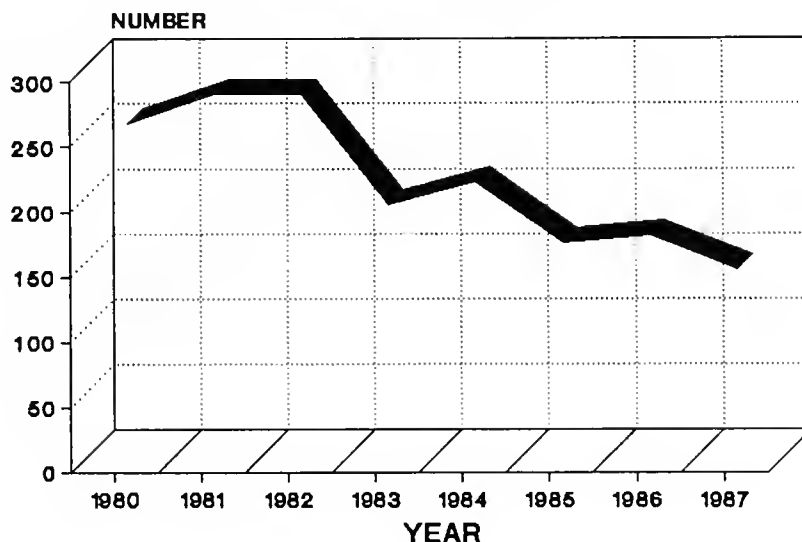
A total of 127 rapes was reported in 1987. During this year, rapes decreased 2.31 percent compared to those reported in 1986.

There were 65 rapes cleared by arrest, or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a clearance rate of 51.2 percent statewide.

Rapes accounted for 13.8 percent of all violent crimes and .37 percent of the total crime index. The rape rate in Montana was 1.6 per 10,000.

## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## ROBBERY



Robbery is defined as the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. Robbery is a violent crime in which the element of personal confrontation between the victim and offender is present. Attempts to rob are included in the robbery count. One robbery is counted for each distinct operation, regardless of the number of victims present at the time.

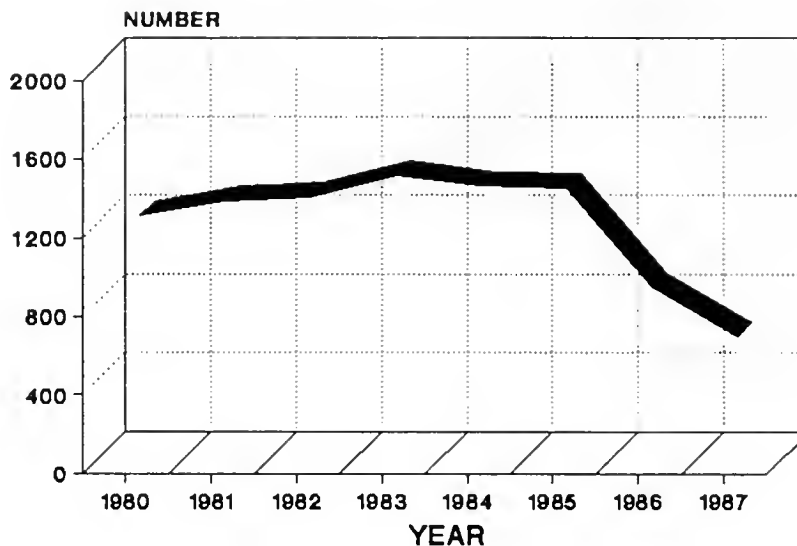
**1987 SUMMARY**

A total of 145 robberies was reported in 1987. During this year, robberies decreased 15.2 percent compared to those reported in 1986.

There were 50 robberies cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a clearance rate of 35.5 percent.

Robberies accounted for 15.7 percent of all violent crimes and .42 percent of the total crime index. The robbery rate in Montana was 1.8 per 10,000 population.

## AGGRAVATED ASSAULT



Aggravated Assault is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

### 1987 SUMMARY

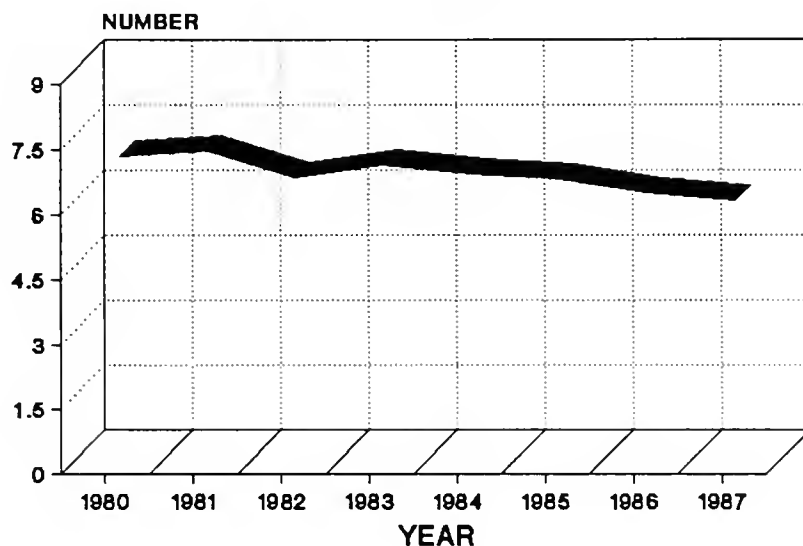
A total of 625 aggravated assaults was reported in 1987. During this year, aggravated assaults decreased 28.82 percent from the 1987 total.

There were 368 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared for a clearance rate of 58.9 percent statewide.

Aggravated assault accounted for 67.9 percent of all violent crimes and 1.81 percent of the total crime index. The aggravated assault rate in Montana was 7.7 per 10,000 population.

## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## BURGLARY



Burglary is defined as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

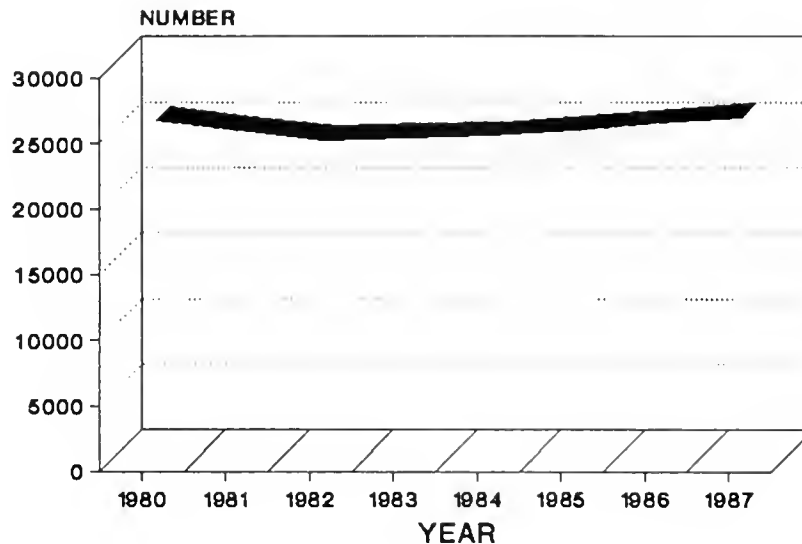
## 1987 SUMMARY

A total of 6,003 burglaries was reported in 1987. During the reporting year burglaries decreased 2.8 percent from the 1986 total.

There were 886 burglaries cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared for a clearance rate of 14.8 percent statewide.

Burglary accounted for 17.8 percent of all property crimes and 17.37 percent of the total crime index. The burglary rate in Montana was 74.2 per 10,000 population.

## LARCENY



Larceny/theft is defined as the unlawful taking, carrying, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, etc., in which no use of force, violence or fraud occurs.

### 1987 SUMMARY

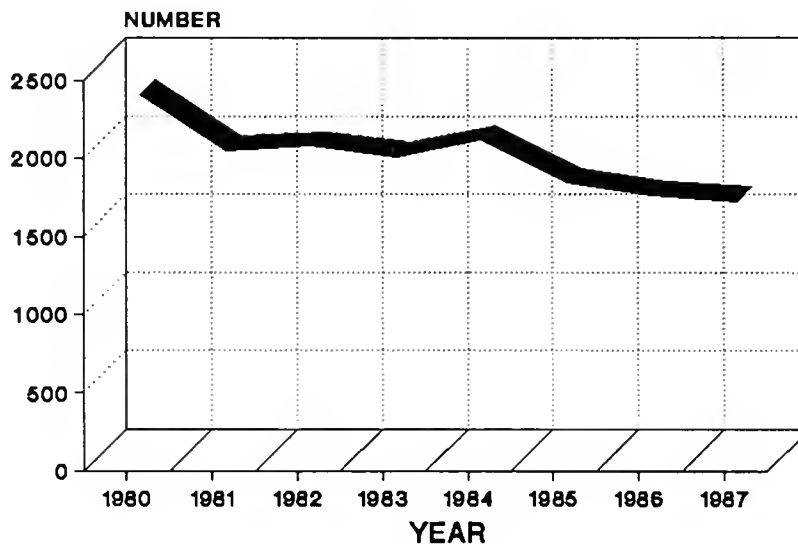
The number of crimes classified as larceny reached 25,990 in 1987. This was a slight increase of 1.65 percent over the past year. There were 5,647 larcenies cleared by arrest or exception in 1987, which is a 21.7 percent clearance rate on a statewide basis.

Larceny accounted for 77.3 percent of all property crimes and 75.22 percent of the total crime index. The larceny/theft rate in Montana was 321.3 per 10,000 population.



## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT



Motor vehicle theft is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

**1987 SUMMARY**

A total of 1,637 motor vehicle thefts was reported in 1987. During the reporting year motor vehicle thefts decreased 2.15 percent from 1986.

There were 486 motor vehicle thefts cleared by arrest or exception with a 29.7 percent clearance rate statewide.

Motor vehicle thefts accounted for 4.9 percent of all property crimes, and 4.74 percent of the total crime index. The motor vehicle theft rate in Montana was 20.2 per 10,000 population.



**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987**

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**SECTION  
THREE****Reported  
Offenses**

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**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987****OFFENSES**

The 1987 state summary of offenses known to the police presents a breakdown of the numbers of offenses reported to law enforcement agencies, unfounded or baseless offenses reported, actual offenses, and offenses cleared by arrest. The Cleared by Arrest Under 18 represents only juvenile arrests. The Percent of Actual Offenses Cleared by Arrest is the percent of total offenses, adult and juvenile, cleared by arrest.

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# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## 1987 STATE SUMMARY OF OFFENSES KNOWN TO POLICE

	OFFENSES REPORTED OR KNOWN BY POLICE	UNFOUNDED OFFENSES	ACTUAL OFFENSES	TOTAL CLEARED BY ARREST	CLEARED BY ARREST UNDER 18	% ACTUAL OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST
Homicide	28	4	24	19	1	79.2
Rape	140	13	127	65	5	51.2
Robbery	151	6	145	50	6	35.5
Aggravated Assault	665	40	625	368	48	58.9
TOTAL VIOLENT	984	63	921	502	60	54.5
Burglary	6,300	297	6,003	886	268	14.8
Larceny	26,978	988	25,990	5,647	2,078	21.7
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,884	247	1,637	486	189	29.7
TOTAL PROPERTY	35,162	1,532	33,630	7,019	2,535	20.9
TOTAL PART I	36,146	1,595	34,551	7,521	2,595	21.8
Negligent Homicide	6	3	3	1	1	33.3
Other Assaults	4,272	84	4,188	1,939	216	46.3
Arson	147	0	147	42	20	28.6
Forgery	1,186	13	1,173	366	48	31.2
Fraud	1,976	36	1,940	596	17	30.7
Embezzlement	36	1	35	19	5	54.3
Stolen Property	99	1	98	34	6	34.7
Vandalism	11,525	73	11,452	1,472	466	12.9
Weapons	346	15	331	118	28	35.6
Prostitution	19	0	19	10	2	52.6
Sex Offenses	1,449	25	1,424	311	65	21.8
Drugs	1,049	3	1,046	778	97	74.4
Gambling	44	0	44	14	0	31.8
Offenses - Family	484	10	474	124	6	26.2
TOTAL PART II	22,638	264	22,374	5,824	977	26.0
GRAND TOTAL	58,784	1,859	56,925	13,345	3,572	23.4

## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## CRIME IN MONTANA

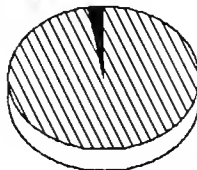
From 1986 to 1987:

^There was a 1.7 percent increase in the rate per 100,000 population of crime index offenses reported.

^There was a 21.4 percent decrease in the rate for violent crimes.

^There was a 2.5 percent increase in the rate for property crimes.

VIOLENT CRIMES 2.7%



PROPERTY CRIMES 97.3%

Of the 933 violent crimes reported:

^Willful homicide accounted for 3.0 percent

^Forcible rape accounted for 14.6 percent

^Robbery accounted for 15.4 percent

^Aggravated assault accounted for 67.0 percent

Of the 33,834 property crimes reported:

^Burglary accounted for 17.6 percent

^Larceny/theft accounted for 77.6 percent

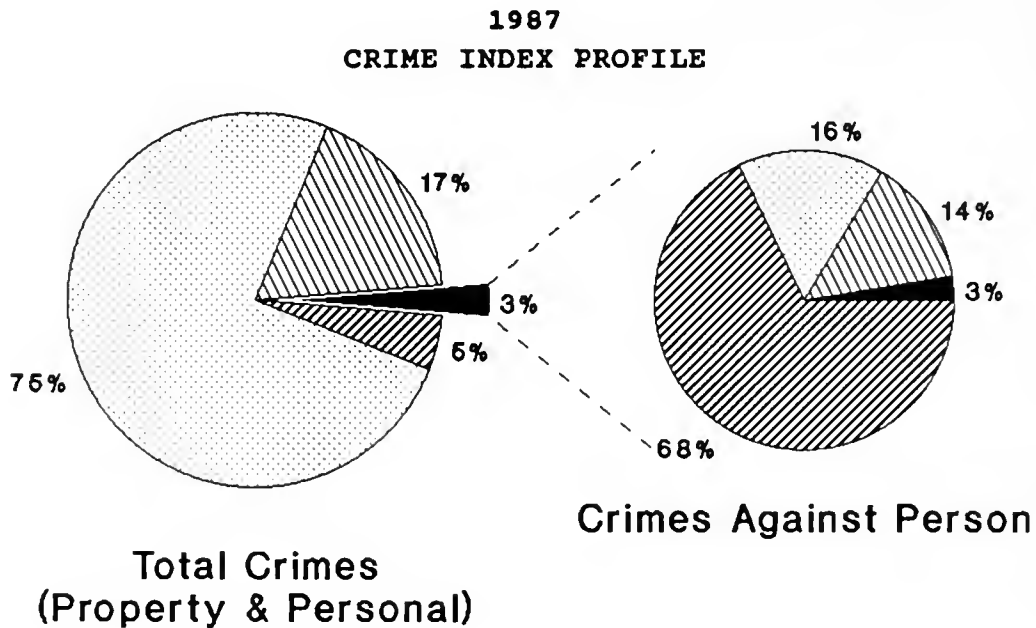
^Motor vehicle theft accounted for 4.8 percent

# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## CRIME INDEX PROFILE

The pie chart below shows the proportion of each index crime to the total of all 1987 index crimes.

The three property crimes, burglary, larceny/theft and motor vehicle theft, account for 97.33 percent of all index crimes. The violent crimes, homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, account for 2.67 percent of all index crimes.



	Number	% of Total
Homicide	24	.07
Rape	127	.37
Robbery	145	.42
Assault	625	1.81
Burglary	6,003	17.37
Larceny	25,990	75.22
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,637	4.74
<b>TOTAL INDEX</b>	<b>34,551</b>	<b>100.00</b>



# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## 1987 - CRIME RATE SEVEN MAJOR INDEX CRIMES

According to the U.S. Bureau of The Census, Montana's estimated population in 1987 was 809,000. This is the population figure used in calculating the crime rates in this publication.

VIOLENT CRIMES			CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY		
Index Offenses	Number of Actual Offenses	Rate per 100,000 Population	Index Offenses	Number of Actual Offenses	Rate Per 100,000 Population
Homicide					
Rape	24	3.0	Burglary	6,003	742.0
Robbery	127	15.7			
Aggravated	145	17.9	Larceny	25,990	3,212.6
Assault			Motor Veh.		
	625	77.3	Theft	1,637	202.3
Total					
	921	113.8	Total	33,630	4,157.0
GRAND TOTAL. . . . .				34,551	4,270.8

The 1987 Montana crime rate is 4,270.8. This means that 4,270.8 of every 100,000 Montana residents were victims of a major crime in 1987. In 1987 there were:

4,270.8 crimes per 100,000 persons  
 427.1 crimes per 10,000 persons  
 42.7 crimes per 1,000 persons  
 4.3 crimes per 100 persons

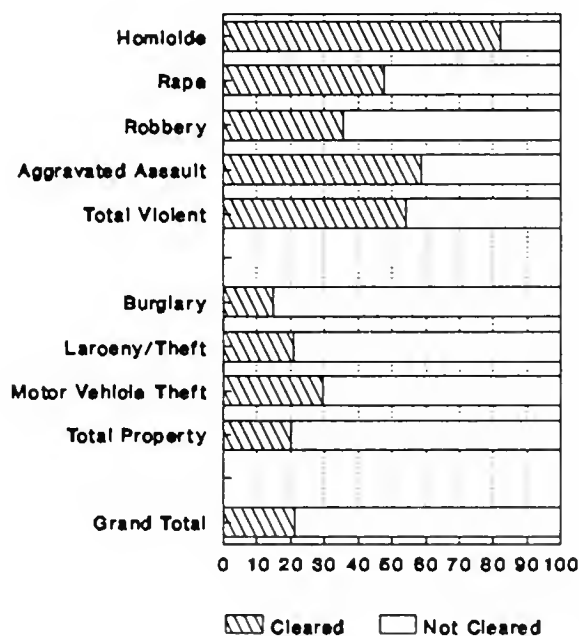
The probability of being a crime victim in Montana for the year 1987 was 1 out of each 25 persons.

**CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987****Clearances**

An offense is considered cleared when a law enforcement agency has identified an offender, gathered sufficient evidence, filed a charge, and he is actually taken into custody. The arrest of one person can clear several crimes or conversely, several persons may be arrested in the process of clearing one crime.

The following illustration shows the percentage of actual offenses cleared by arrest. Note that property crimes, burglary, larceny/theft, and motor vehicle theft, have the lowest percentages of clearance, while violent crimes have the highest percentages of clearance.

**PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL OFFENSES  
CLEARED BY ARREST - 1987  
SEVEN INDEX CRIMES**



# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## Crime Incidence Comparison

A comparison of the total number of crimes reported provides a measure of the fluctuation in criminal activity between 1986 and 1987.

The number of index crimes decreased by 67 between 1986 and 1987, The overall incidence of crime 0.2 percent between 1986 and 1987.

## CRIME INCIDENCE COMPARISON 1986 - 1987

	1986	1987	NUMERIC CHANGE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
PART I				
HOMICIDE	22	24	+2	+9.09
RAPE	130	127	-3	-2.31
ROBBERY	171	145	-26	-15.20
AGG ASSAULT	878	625	-253	-28.82
BURGLARY	6176	6003	-173	-2.80
LARCENY	25568	25990	+422	+1.65
MVTHEFT	1673	1637	-36	-2.15
Total Part I	34618	34551	-67	-0.19
PART II				
NEGL HOMICIDE	2	3	+1	+50.00
OTHER ASSAULTS	4008	4188	+180	+4.49
ARSON	178	147	-31	-17.42
FORGERY	1000	1173	+173	+17.30
FRAUD	2299	1940	-359	-15.62
EMBEZZLEMENT	19	35	+16	+84.21
STOLEN PROP	87	98	+11	+12.64
VANDALISM	11182	11452	+270	+2.41
WEAPONS	392	331	-61	-15.56
PROSTITUTION	24	19	-5	-20.83
SEX OFFENSES	1415	1424	+9	+0.64
DRUGS	1051	1046	-5	-0.48
GAMBLING	24	44	+20	+83.33
OFFS FAMILY	471	474	+3	+0.64
Total Part II	22152	22374	+222	+1.00
GRAND TOTAL	56770	56925	+155	+0.27

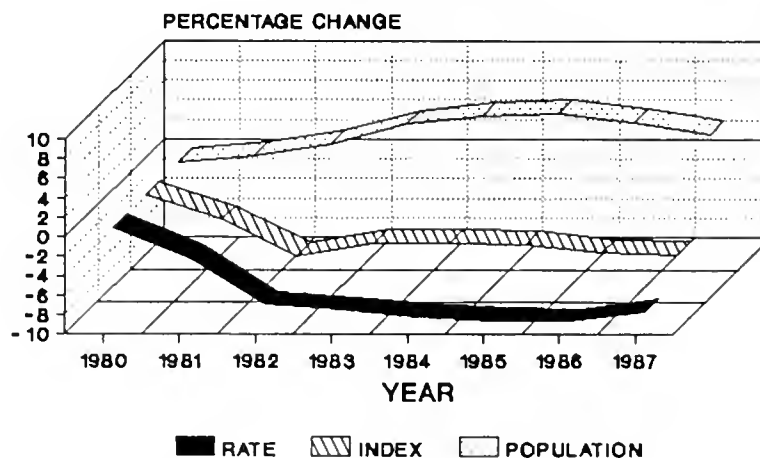
## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## Crime and Population Growth Trends

The crime rate and population growth trends for the past eleven years are shown below. The crime index reflects the actual number of crimes reported to law enforcement.

In 1980, 36,791 index crimes were recorded for a crime rate of 4,678.3 per 100,000 with a total population 786,400. By 1987, the number of index crimes had dropped to 34,551, and the crime rate reduced to 4,270.8 with an estimated population of 809,000. The 1987 figures represent a 6.1 percent decrease in the number of index crimes, an 8.71 percent decrease in the crime rate, and a 2.87 percent increase in the population over the 1980 figures.

The crime index and crime rate figures have experienced a relatively smaller percentage of change than the population has over the eleven year period. The crime index and crime rates have shown sharp, but sporadic decreases over the period while the state population has shown a slight, but steady increase.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE  
1980 TO 1987

## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## AGENCY REPORTS

This section contains a summary of offenses reported to each law enforcement agency. If the crime rates appear to be extreme for some jurisdictions, the cause could be a low population within that jurisdiction. In communities with low populations any fluctuation in the number of crimes has a major impact on the crime rate. Seasonal variations in population can have a marked influence on crime rates, when the permanent population is used as the base figure for computation.

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# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## Summary

The 1987 crime rate for each reporting county in Montana is listed below. Eleven (11) counties had crime rates above the state-wide total of 4270.8 crimes per 100,000 population and accounted for 80 percent of the state's reported crime.

The eleven counties are not a contiguous geographical high crime area, nor do they all represent high population areas. Of the eleven, six are considered high population areas (having a population of 40,000 or more). The other counties are classified as moderate to low population areas. In areas of low population, any fluctuation in the number of index crimes has a major impact on the crime rate.

## CRIME RATE BY COUNTY 1987 Ranking

Rank	County	Crime Rate	Rank	County	Crime Rate
1	LEWIS & CLARK	6426.8	24	RAVALLI	2376.7
2	YELLOWSTONE	6396.2	25	TETON	2166.7
3	CASCADE	6207.3	26	LIBERTY	2024.5
4	BROADWATER	5870.5	27	JEFFERSON	1837.0
5	SILVER BOW	5814.4	28	MADISON	1722.6
6	FLATHEAD	5784.5	29	CARBON	1667.3
7	MISSOULA	5535.6	30	CHOUTEAU	1646.9
8	HILL	5286.2	31	ROSEBUD	1645.9
9	DEER LODGE	4958.3	32	BIG HORN	1617.8
10	ROOSEVELT	4732.2	33	PONDERA	1601.5
11	GALLATIN	4425.9	34	TOOLE	1527.4
	STATE TOTAL	4270.8	35	WHEATLAND	1472.6
12	PARK	4072.1	36	DAWSON	1216.5
13	GRANITE	3524.6	37	MEAGHER	1012.4
14	PHILLIPS	3478.1	38	SANDERS	989.5
15	CUSTER	3466.3	39	STILLWATER	979.4
16	FERGUS	3174.4	40	POWDER RIVER	927.9
17	LINCOLN	3145.6	41	JUDITH BASIN	856.4
18	SWEET GRASS	3076.5	42	FALLON	843.6
19	RICHLAND	2719.4	43	BLAINE	777.5
20	MUSSELSHELL	2706.9	44	DANIELS	622.8
21	VALLEY	2590.3	45	TREASURE	404.9
22	WIBAUX	2492.2	46	MCCONE	242.9
23	SHERIDAN	2379.7			

# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

AGENCY	1987 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURG- LARY	LARCENY THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
BEAVERHEAD										
BEAVERHEAD S.O.	4356		DID	NOT	REPORT					
DILLON	4041		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	8397									
BIG HORN										
BIG HORN S.O.	11559	1617.8	187	0	0	0	14	53	105	15
TOTALS	11559	1617.8	187	0	0	0	14	53	105	15
BLAINE										
BLAINE S.O.	5849	906.1	53	1	0	0	0	9	39	4
HARLEM	968		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	6817	777.5	531	1	0	0	0	9	39	4
BROADWATER										
BROADWATER S.O.	3458	5870.4	203	0	0	0	1	38	154	10
TOTALS	3458	5870.4	203	0	0	0	1	38	154	10
CARBON										
CARBON S.O.	6372	1082.9	69	0	0	0	0	25	41	3
RED LODGE	2025	3209.9	65	0	1	0	0	6	56	2
TOTALS	8397	1595.8	134	0	1	0	0	31	97	5
CARTER										
CARTER S.O.	1679		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	1679									
CASCADE										
CASCADE S.O.	21823		DID	NOT	REPORT					
GREAT FALLS	56617	8541.6	4836	3	13	22	56	907	3692	143
TOTALS	78440	6207.3	4836	3	13	22	56	907	3692	143
CHOUTEAU										
CHOUTEAU S.O.	4209	1425.5	60	0	0	0	4	10	42	4
FORT BENTON	1620	1111.1	18	0	0	0	1	4	12	1
TOTALS	5829	1338.1	78	0	0	0	5	14	54	5
CUSTER										
MILES CITY-CUSTER	13040	3466.3	452	0	0	1	8	66	338	39
TOTALS	13040	3466.3	452	0	0	1	8	66	338	39
DANIELS										
DANIELS S.O.	1324	453.2	6	0	0	0	0	4	1	1
SCOBAY	1245	803.2	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
TOTALS	2569	622.8	16	0	0	0	0	4	11	1
DAWSON										
DAWSON S.O.	5700		DID	NOT	REPORT					
GLENDIVE	5562	2463.1	137	0	0	0	1	19	110	7
TOTALS	11262	1216.5	137	0	0	0	1	19	110	7

# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

AGENCY	1987 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURG- LARY	LARCENY THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
DEER LODGE										
DEER LODGE S.O.	10669	4958.3	529	1	2	0	14	136	353	23
TOTALS	10669	4958.3	529	1	2	0	14	136	353	23
FALLON										
FALLON S.O.	1353	517.4	7	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
BAKER	2203	1044.0	23	0	0	0	0	0	21	2
TOTALS	3556	843.6	30	0	0	0	0	0	28	2
FERGUS										
FERGUS S.O.	5750	1252.2	72	0	0	0	0	15	56	1
LEWISTOWN	6599	4849.2	320	0	1	0	5	49	249	16
TOTALS	12349	3174.3	392	0	1	0	5	64	305	17
FLATHEAD										
FLATHEAD S.O.	37798	4177.5	1579	6	15	7	34	364	1047	106
COLUMBIA FALLS	3339	4732.0	158	0	0	1	2	23	129	3
WHITEFISH	4218	6282.6	265	0	0	0	2	45	207	11
KALISPELL	11746	11076.1	1301	0	1	4	31	132	1091	42
TOTALS	57101	5784.5	3303	6	16	12	69	564	2474	162
GALLATIN										
GALLATIN S.O.	23117	1743.3	403	0	3	0	15	98	262	25
BOZEMAN	23206	6011.4	1395	0	1	2	9	102	1200	81
W. YELLOWSTONE	899	10122.4	91	0	0	0	0	3	77	11
M.S.U.			201	0	0	0	1	3	194	3
TOTALS	47222	4425.9	2090	0	4	2	25	206	1733	120
GARFIELD										
GARFIELD S.O.	1679		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	1679									
GLACIER										
GLACIER S.O.	7360		DID	NOT	REPORT					
CUT BANK	3705		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	11065									
GOLDEN VALLEY										
GOLDEN VALLEY S.O.	1087		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	1087									
GRANITE										
GRANITE S.O.	2667	3524.6	94	0	0	0	6	19	61	8
TOTALS	2667	3524.6	94	0	0	0	6	19	61	8
HILL										
HILL S.O.	7073	3237.7	229	0	1	0	7	61	143	17
HAVRE	10709	6639.3	711	0	3	2	6	85	586	29
TOTALS	17782	5286.2	940	0	4	2	13	146	729	46
JEFFERSON										
JEFFERSON S.O.	6471	1607.2	104	0	0	0	6	27	68	3
BOULDER	1531	2090.1	32	0	0	0	2	2	26	2
TOTALS	8002	1699.6	136	0	0	0	8	29	94	5



# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

AGENCY	1987 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURG- LARY	LARCENY THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
JUDITH BASIN										
JUDITH BASIN S.O.	2569	856.4	22	0	0	0	1	10	11	0
TOTALS	2569	856.4	22	0	0	0	1	10	11	0
LAKE										
LAKE S.O.	17249		DID	NOT	REPORT					
POLSON	3102		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	20351									
LEWIS & CLARK										
LEWIS & CLARK S.O.	19462	3072.7	598	0	4	2	27	143	399	23
HELENA	24372	9371.4	2284	0	7	21	48	287	1830	91
E. HELENA	2005	3192.0	64	0	0	0	1	11	49	3
TOTALS	45839	6426.8	2946	0	11	23	76	441	2278	117
LIBERTY										
LIBERTY S.O.	2371	1687.1	40	0	0	0	1	8	28	3
TOTALS	2371	1687.1	40	0	0	0	1	8	28	3
LINCOLN										
LINCOLN S.O.	15965	2699.7	431	1	1	0	11	68	320	30
EUREKA	1225	2204.1	27	0	0	0	0	5	18	4
TROY	1185	3966.2	47	1	0	0	3	3	40	0
TOTALS	18375	2748.3	505	2	1	0	14	76	378	34
MADISON										
MADISON S.O.	5631	1722.6	97	0	0	0	4	20	67	6
TOTALS	5631	1722.6	97	0	0	0	4	20	67	6
MCCONE										
MCCONE S.O.	2470	242.9	6	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
TOTALS	2470	242.9	6	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
MEAGHER										
MEAGHER S.O.	2173	1012.4	22	0	0	0	2	3	17	0
TOTALS	2173	1012.4	22	0	0	0	2	3	17	0
MINERAL										
MINERAL S.O.	3655		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	3655									
MISSOULA										
MISSOULA S.O.	43212	2793.2	1207	2	13	1	38	280	807	66
MISSOULA CITY	33549	9067.3	3042	1	17	21	53	312	2513	125
TOTALS	76761	5535.4	4249	3	30	22	91	592	3320	191
MUSSELSHELL										
MUSSELSHELL S.O.	4544	2706.9	123	0	0	0	8	25	81	9
TOTALS	4544	2706.9	123	0	0	0	8	25	81	9
PARK										
PARK S.O.	6461	1377.5	89	0	0	0	7	22	54	6
LIVINGSTON	6579	5745.6	378	0	2	0	10	62	291	13
TOTALS	13040	3581.3	467	0	2	0	17	84	345	19
	1987	CRIME								

CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987
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AGENCY	POPULATION ESTIMATE	RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURG- LARY	LARCENY THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
PETROLEUM										
PETROLEUM S.O.	593		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	593									
PHILLIPS										
PHILLIPS S.O.	2964	3947.4	117	0	0	0	4	36	72	5
MALTA	2470	2915.0	72	0	0	0	2	1	69	0
TOTALS	5434	3478.1	189	0	0	0	6	37	141	5
PONDERA										
PONDERA S.O.	3774	1377.8	52	0	0	0	1	8	28	15
CONRAD	2845	1898.1	54	0	0	1	0	4	49	0
TOTALS	6619	1601.5	106	0	0	1	1	12	77	15
POWDER RIVER										
POWDER RIVER S.O.	2371	927.9	22	0	1	0	0	5	16	0
TOTALS	2371	927.9	22	0	1	0	0	5	16	0
POWELL										
POWELL S.O.	6817		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	6817									
PRAIRIE										
PRAIRIE S.O.	1679		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	1679									
RAVALLI										
RAVALLI S.O.	21853	1821.3	398	0	0	1	18	64	296	19
HAMILTON	2845	6643.2	189	0	0	0	7	23	154	5
TOTALS	24698	2376.7	587	0	0	1	25	87	450	24
RICHLAND										
RICHLAND S.O.	6994	1072.3	75	0	0	0	2	8	54	11
SIDNEY	6244	4564.4	285	1	5	0	8	19	241	11
TOTALS	13238	2719.4	360	1	5	0	10	27	295	22
ROOSEVELT										
ROOSEVELT S.O.	7914	6911.8	547	0	2	1	18	136	351	39
WOLF POINT	3260		DID	NOT	REPORT					
BROCKTON	385		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	11559	4732.2	547	0	2	1	18	136	351	39
ROSEBUD										
ROSEBUD S.O.	12151	1646.0	200	0	0	2	1	41	135	21
TOTALS	12151	1646.0	200	0	0	2	1	41	135	21
SANDERS										
SANDERS S.O.	5541	1497.9	83	1	0	0	4	24	48	6
HOT SPRINGS	583	686.1	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
THOMPSON FALLS	1591		DID	NOT	REPORT					
PLAINS	1077		DID	NOT	REPORT					
TOTALS	8792	989.5	87	1	0	0	4	28	48	6

# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

AGENCY	1987 POPULA- TION ESTIMATE	CRIME RATE PER 100,000	CRIME INDEX	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRA- VATED ASSAULT	BURG- LARY	LARCENY THEFT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT
SHERIDAN										
SHERIDAN S.O.	3062	849.1	26	0	0	0	0	15	11	0
PLENTYWOOD	2569	4126.1	106	0	0	0	5	22	75	4
TOTALS	5631	2344.2	132	0	0	0	5	37	86	4
SILVER BOW										
SILVER BOW S.O.	33589	5814.4	1953	0	2	13	28	350	1451	109
TOTALS	33589	5814.4	1953	0	2	13	28	350	1451	109
STILLWATER										
STILLWATER S.O.	6125	979.6	60	1	0	1	5	13	36	4
TOTALS	6125	979.6	60	1	0	1	5	13	36	4
SWEET GRASS										
SWEET GRASS S.O.	3260	2546.0	83	0	0	0	0	15	64	4
TOTALS	3260	2546.0	83	0	0	0	0	15	64	4
TETON										
TETON S.O.	6323	2166.7	137	0	0	0	3	48	81	5
TOTALS	6323	2166.7	137	0	0	0	3	48	81	5
TOOLE										
TOOLE S.O.	5434	1527.4	83	0	0	0	4	21	54	4
TOTALS	5434	1527.4	83	0	0	0	4	21	54	4
TREASURE										
TREASURE S.O.	988	404.9	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
TOTALS	988	404.9	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
VALLEY										
VALLEY S.O.	5325	1615.0	86	0	1	0	1	19	63	2
GLASGOW	3863	3934.8	152	0	1	1	0	17	123	10
TOTALS	9188	2590.3	238	0	2	1	1	36	186	12
WHEATLAND										
WHEATLAND S.O.	2173	1242.5	27	0	0	0	0	2	23	2
TOTALS	2173	1242.5	27	0	0	0	0	2	23	2
WIBAUX										
WIBAUX S.O.	642	2336.4	15	0	1	0	1	1	11	1
WIBAUX CITY	642	1869.2	12	0	0	0	0	1	10	1
TOTALS	1284	2102.8	27	0	1	0	1	2	21	2
YELLOWSTONE										
YELLOWSTONE S.O.	32088	2664.5	855	1	7	5	9	195	583	55
BILLINGS	79339	8370.4	6641	4	22	35	64	1335	4876	305
LAUREL	7222	1287.7	93	0	0	1	1	4	82	5
TOTALS	118649	6396.2	7589	5	29	41	74	1534	5541	365
STATE TOTALS	809000	4270.8	34551	24	127	145	625	6003	25990	1637



CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

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SECTION  
FOUR  
Juvenile  
Probation  
Information  
System

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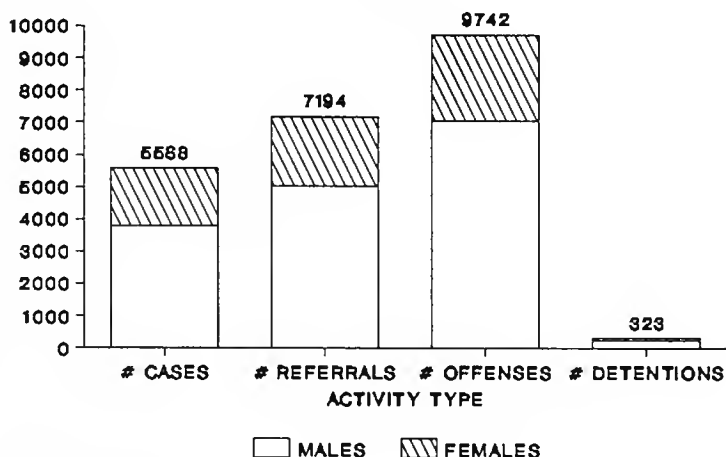


# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## GENERAL ACTIVITY

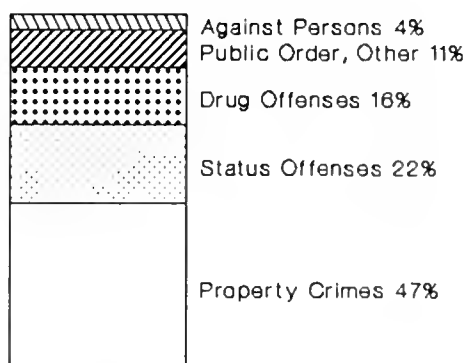
The general activity of the Juvenile Probation offices (a part of the Youth Court), is measured in four component parts: number of cases, number of referrals, number of offenses, and number of detentions. **Cases** may be thought of as individual youth who become involved with the juvenile justice system for some reason, criminal or not. In 1987 5,568 cases were reported on JPIS which is down 33 cases from 1986. The 5,568 cases were **referred** to the probation office 7,194 times throughout the year. In other words, some of the 5,568 youth were involved with the probation office more than once during the year. The 5,568 cases incorporated 9,742 **offenses**, down 183 offenses from the prior year. It is important to note, though, that the majority of cases are referred but once and commit but one offense. It is the repetitive cases which tend to be defined as the more serious offenders. **Detentions**, the final measure, totaled 323 youth held in jail in 1987, which is 4.4 percent of the referrals to Juvenile Probation. Detentions for 1987 were down 3.8 percent from the prior year. In August, 1987 Yellowstone County opened Montana's first secure detention facility for youth, the Youth Service Center in Billings. The chart below indicates the general activity of the Youth Courts throughout the state and this pattern is little changed from 1986. As in the past, the bulk of the activity for Youth Courts is with males.

GENERAL YOUTH COURT ACTIVITY  
By Sex



## REASON FOR REFERRAL

Four major categories or reasons for referral constitute the 7,194 referrals: 1) 47% are for property crimes such as theft, burglary, or larceny; 2) 22% of the referrals are for status offenses such as truancy, curfew, or runaway; 3) 11% of the referrals are for offenses against the public order such as disturbing the peace, or traffic violations; 4) 4%, of the referrals are for **crimes against persons** such as robbery, assault, rape, or homicide. Crimes against persons command the most attention yet these make up the least referrals. Crimes against persons seldom fluctuate as a percentage of the total referrals and the percentage is unchanged from 1986. The 1986 issue of CRIME IN MONTANA predicted an increase in the number of referrals for drug related reasons. In 1986, 12% of referrals were drug offenses, increasing to 16% in 1987 as predicted. The column chart below shows the percentage of referrals in each category.

PERCENTAGE OF REFERRALS  
By Offense

n=7194

Drug Offenses Include Some Liquor  
Offenses

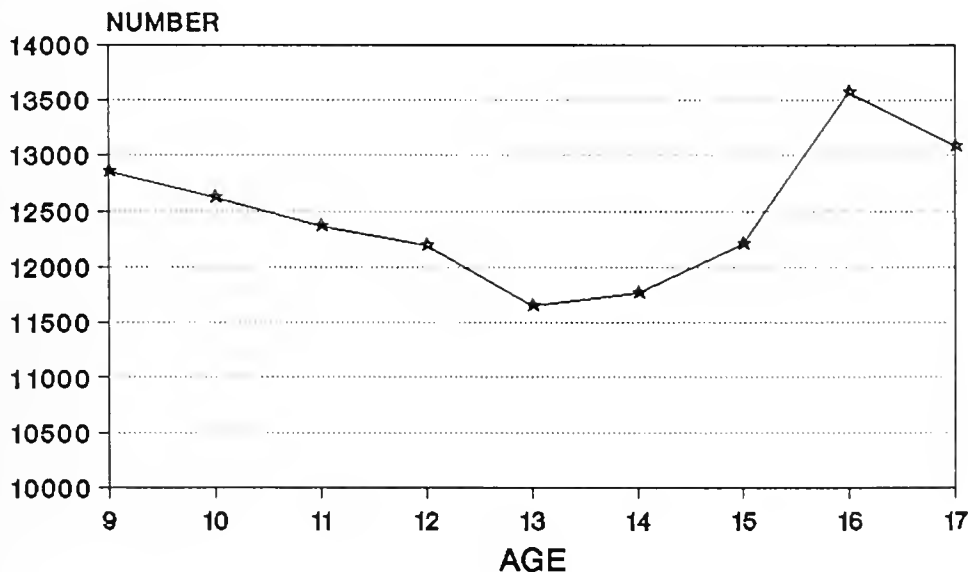


## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## NUMBER OF YOUTH AT RISK

Consideration of the number of future referrals to juvenile probation should be in context of the total number of children in Montana who are "at risk", or, how many children are in the state who may potentially be referred for an offense of some type. During 1987 there was an estimated 112,319 children ages 9 through 17 at risk and most were 16 and 17 years old. There is, thus, a potential for increased rates of referral, offenses and detentions in 1988 for the 16 and 17 year old group based on the size of the 1987 "at risk" age group alone. After 1989, the size of the "at risk" group will begin to decrease and the number of referrals may reflect the change in population structure. The total number of youth at risk increased slightly (by 413) in 1987, due mainly to an increase in the number of younger children, age 9-10. This slight "bulge" or increase in the number of younger children will represent an increased "at risk" group of 15-17 years old in 7 to 9 years.

Number of Youth At Risk  
Ages 9 to 17  
1987



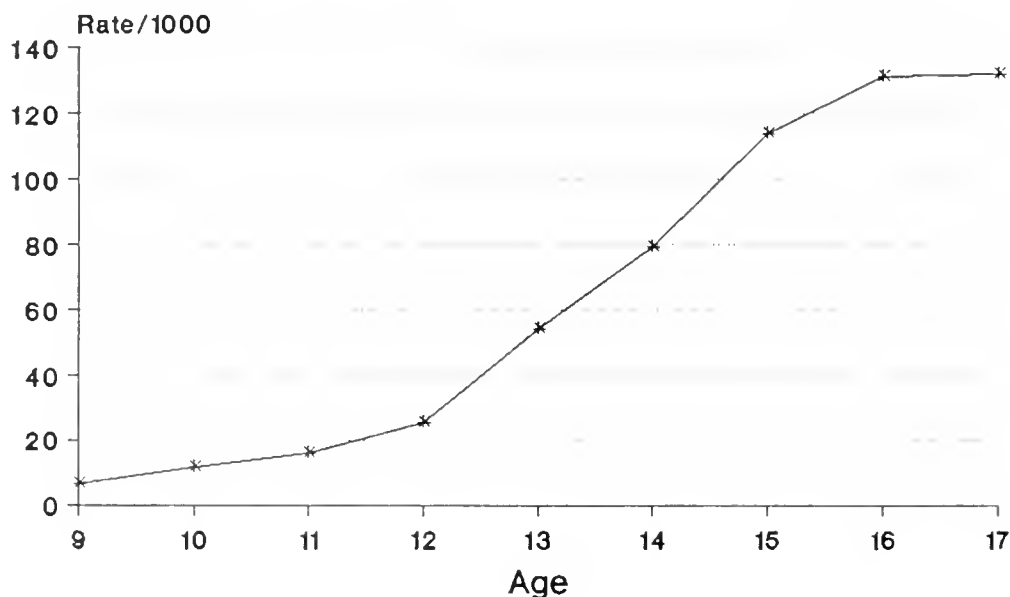
Total at Risk = 112,319

source: McQuiston, UM, 1984

## RATE OF REFERRAL BY AGE

The number of youth at risk and JPIS information on the age at referral are used to calculate a rate of referral per 1,000 youth at risk for each age 9 to 17. This, as noted before, can help to pin-point critical ages and potential changes in Youth Court activity. The rate of referral shown here reveals a straight line increasing from about age 12 through age 16, and then a slower increase after age 16. Thus, those youth coming age 15, 16 and 17 present the highest risk of referral. As the number of children in these ages increases, the activity of the Youth Courts may also increase. The peak rate of referral in 1987 was about 132 referrals for every 1,000 youth age 17, down 3 per 1,000 from 1986. On the other end, and equally important, is the rate of referral for the very young. For every 1,000 children age 9, approximately 6.5 were referred to juvenile probation which is also down a tiny amount (.4) from the 1986 rate. The general pattern of the curve shown in the chart below is typical of the past several years.

Rate of Referral Per 1000 Youth  
By Age  
1987

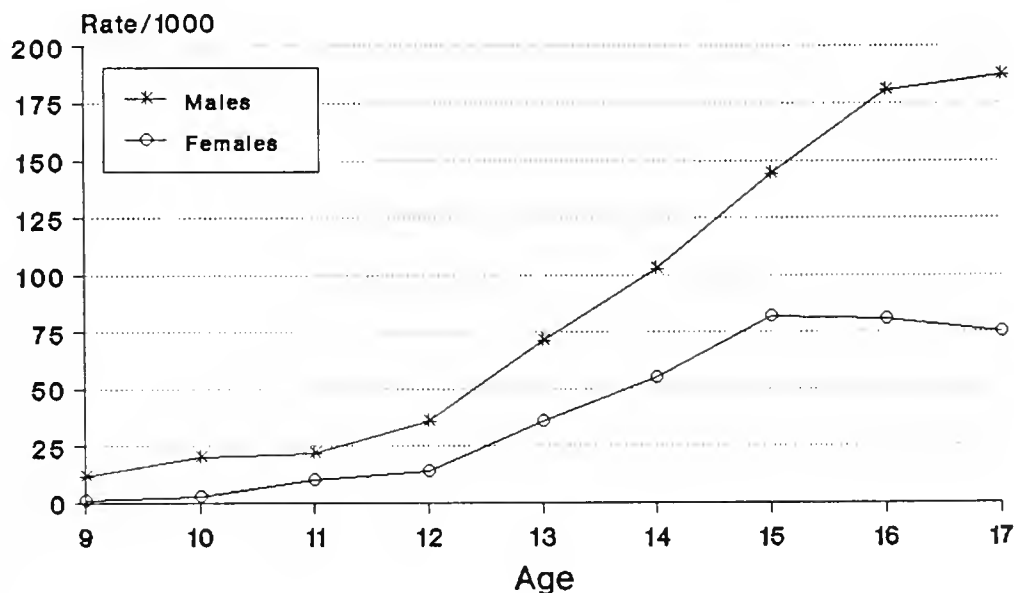


# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## RATE OF REFERRAL BY AGE AND SEX

The nearly straight line increases for the overall rate of referral shown in the prior chart has interesting inconsistencies when the sex of the youth is considered. This chart clearly shows differences in the rate of referral per 1,000 boys versus girls starting at about age 13 and continually widening thereafter. The rate of referral for boys continues to increase to age 17, whereas at age 15 the rate for girls shows a dramatic leveling and even a decline. In addition, this chart shows again the referrals are predominately males in the 16 and 17 year old group. The peak referral rate for males is about 188 per 1,000 boys age 17 while female referrals peak at about 82 per 1,000 girls age 15. In 1986 males peaked at age 17 with almost 200 referrals per 1000, while females peaked at age 16 at about 80. The general pattern reflected in this chart has been consistent year to year.

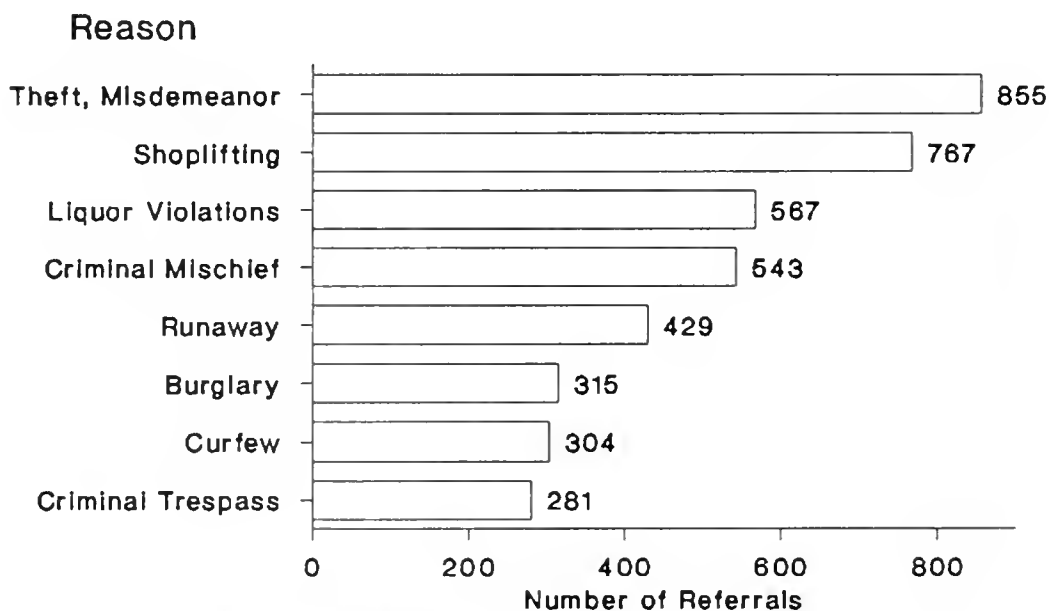
Rate of Referral Per 1000 Youth  
By Age and Sex  
1987



## MOST FREQUENT REASON FOR REFERRAL

A previous chart, page 46, illustrated the four major reasons for referral to the Youth Court. Here we see the top eight specific reasons for the referral. As expected, property offenses predominate, especially misdemeanor thefts. Liquor violations moved from second to the third most frequent reason for referral in 1987. The chart shows a mixture of criminal offenses with status offenses among the 8 major reasons. Curfew violations, runaways and some of the liquor law violations are all offenses only for minors and are of special concern to juvenile justice. The high number of property offenses is also of concern and represents a pattern consistent with prior years.

### Most Frequent Reasons For Referral 1987



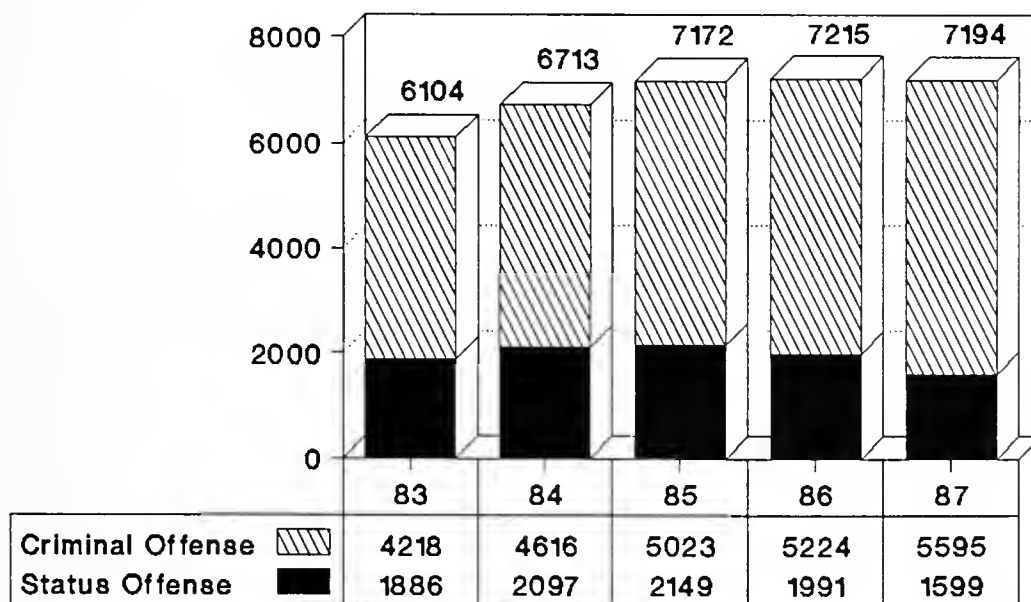
These offenses - 56% of all referrals

# CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## COMPARISON OF YEARLY REFERRALS

Referrals to juvenile probation are often broken into the criminal offense (delinquent) and the status offense (sometimes called YINS). This chart compares these referrals over a five year span. The percentage of status offenses had remained fairly consistent over past years (about 30%) but during 1986 the percentage of status offenses dropped a little to about 28% and declined again in 1987 to 22%. The chart illustrates the consistent pattern of referrals for both criminal and status offenses over the years.

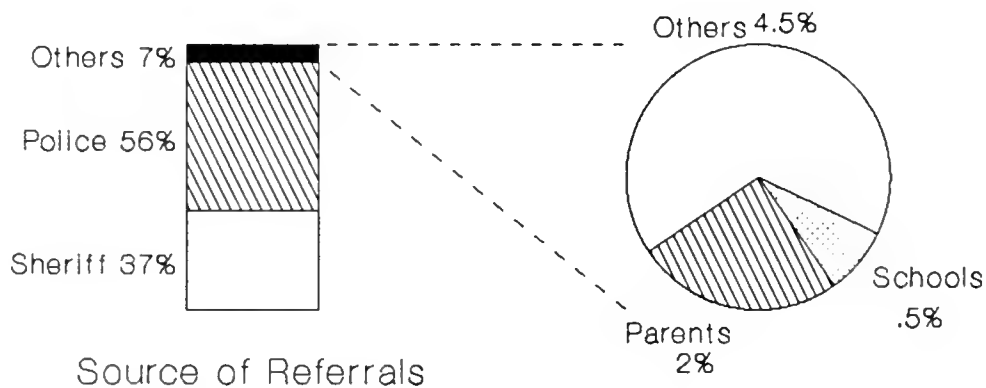
**Total Referrals**  
**Yearly Comparison by Type**  
**1987**



**WHO MAKES REFERRALS?**

It is clear that law enforcement agencies are the prime referral source. In 1987, the Police departments and Sheriff's offices accounted for 93% of all referrals. The remaining 7% is composed of a wide variety of referral sources including Fish, Wildlife and Parks, tribal courts, parents, or school officials. The "Other" category is further broken down into its three major components. With 9 of 10 referrals involving law enforcement agencies, programs aimed at early intervention, diversion, and reduction of secure detentions should also address law enforcement needs and problems. The percentage of law enforcement referrals increased 3% since 1985.

## Who Makes Referrals? 1987

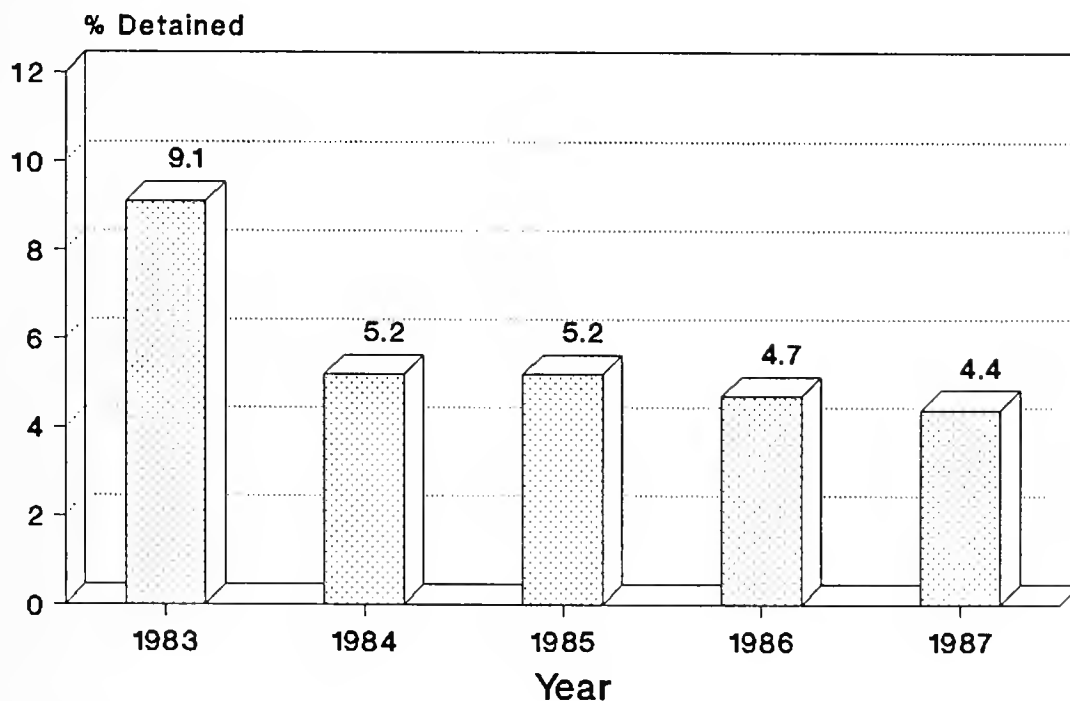


## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## PERCENT OF REFERRALS DETAINED

The percentage of all referrals resulting in secure detention (jail), affects planning for the removal of all juveniles from adult jails and Montana's efforts to meet the mandates of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The reduction of the number of youth placed in adult jails remains a primary goal of the State Youth Services Advisory Council. Over the years a substantial reduction in the percentage of referrals detained has been evidenced. In the past, 25 to 27 percent of the referrals were detained. Over the last 4 year period, the percentage of referrals detained remained near 5%. For the second time, 1987 saw the percentage of referrals detained fall below 5%. In future years, neither continued drops nor great increases are anticipated.

### Percent Of Referrals Detained By Year 1983 - 1987

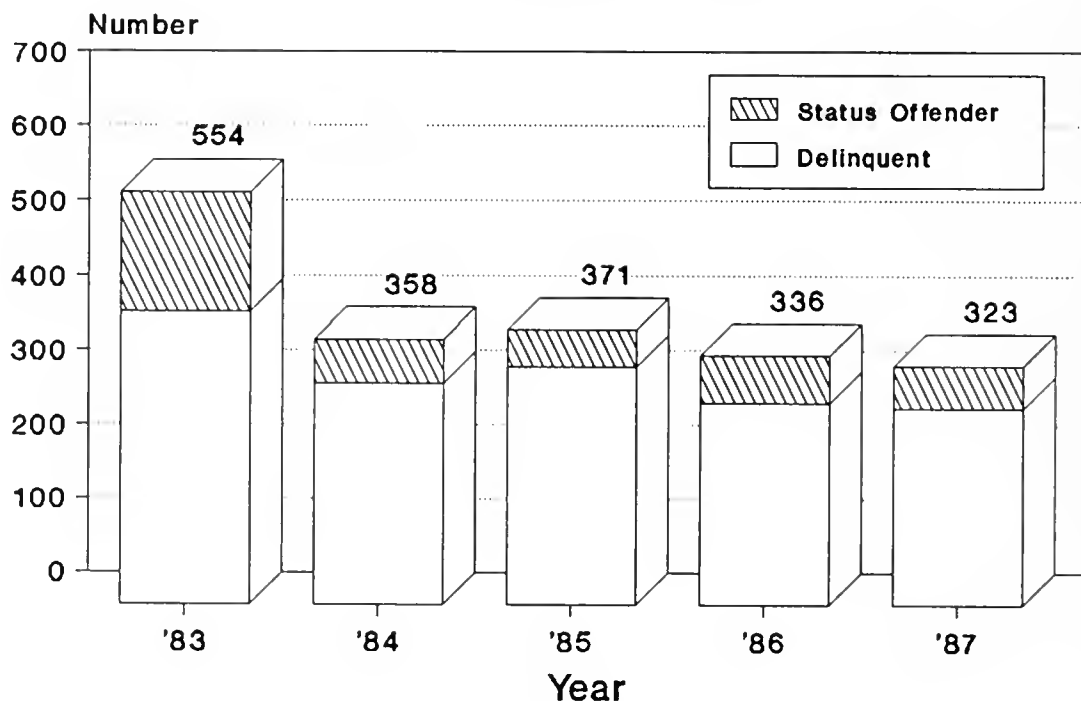


n=7194

## THE NUMBER OF DETENTIONS

The chart below translates the percentage of referrals detained into the real number of secure detentions which occurred in 1987. The number of secure detentions of youth in 1987 was 323. The chart shows detentions of both status offenders and delinquents. The number of status offenders detained in 1987 decreased by 6 from the prior year; the percentage of detentions which are status offenders remained constant at about 18%. An important goal is to reduce the detention of status offenders to zero. A crucial consideration behind the data presented here is the very small numbers of detainees per year. When status offenders are eliminated from consideration, the remaining number of secure detentions is so small, 266, that effective and cost efficient solutions are difficult to develop. It is also important to note that the status offenders detained were generally held less than 24 hours or were from other jurisdictions.

### Total Number of Detentions By Year 1983 - 1987



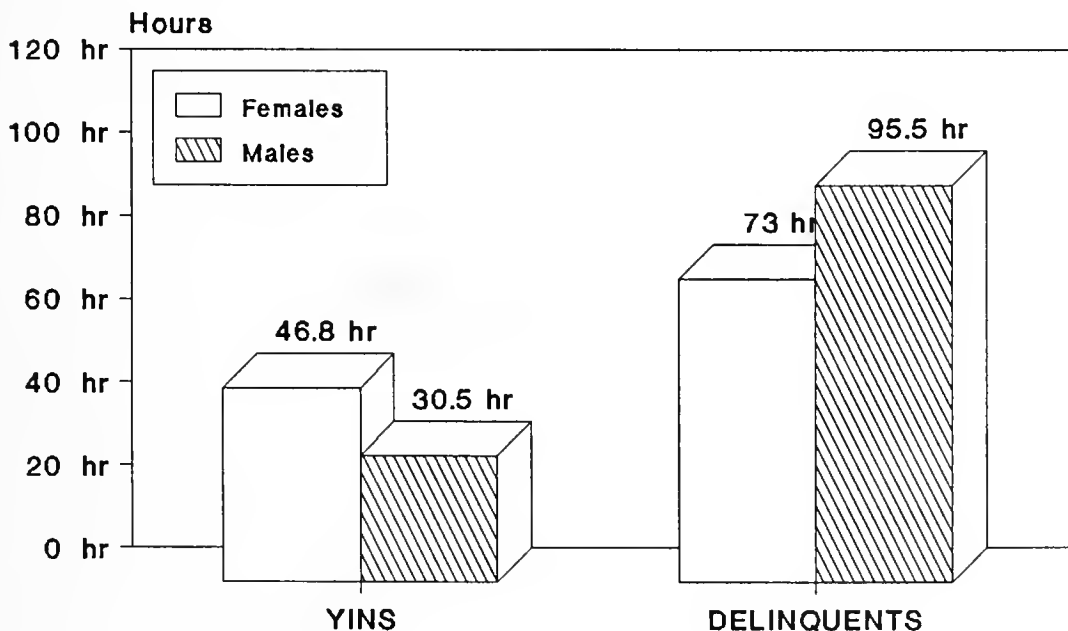


## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## TIME DETAINED BY SEX AND TYPE

JPIS data indicates great differences in the amount of time detained by sex and type of referral. In general, delinquents are detained longer regardless of sex. An interesting difference is the shorter average time in detention for male YINS, about 30 hours, versus females, about 47 hours. On the other hand, delinquent males average about 95 to 96 hours in detention while female delinquents average closer to 73 hours. The pattern for delinquents is similar to that seen in 1986 but the pattern is reversed from the 1986 pattern for YINS detentions. In 1986 male YINS were detained longer than females by about 6 hours on the average. The difference between the average time in detention for delinquent males and females has been decreasing since 1985 when females were held about half as long as males.

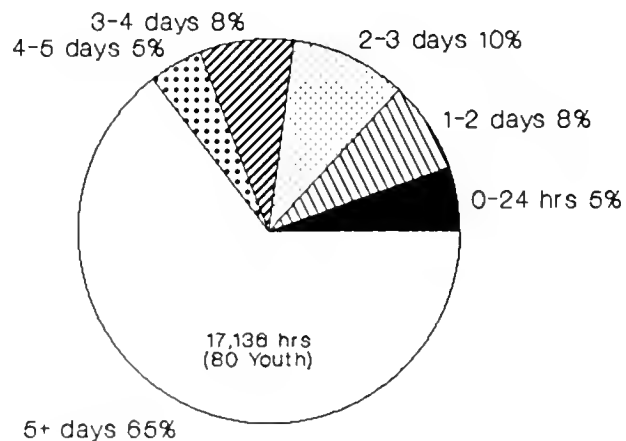
### Average Hours In Detention By Sex 1987



## TOTAL HOURS DETAINED

The 323 youth detained in 1987 amassed 26,554 hours in detention across the state (which is 1,106 days or 3 years of accumulated time). The total time accumulated is about 6% less than the total time accumulated in 1986. Thus, **fewer** youth in 1987 accumulated **less** time in secure detention than in the prior year. The chart shows how the total hours accumulated were distributed by the length of time detained. A key point is, the youth who are detained long term, over 5 days, account for almost two-thirds (64%) of all the time accumulated by all detainees. This means that 80 long term detainees accumulated a total of 17,136 hours in jail (which equals 714 days or 1.9 years). On the average, then, these 80 youth were held 214 hours. By addressing the long term detainee issue, the major factor in the amount of time spent in adult jails will also be addressed. The average daily population of **long term detainees** for 1987 would have been about 2 youth per day, the same as 1986. In 1986, 71 youth were held long term.

### Percent of Total Hours Detained 1987



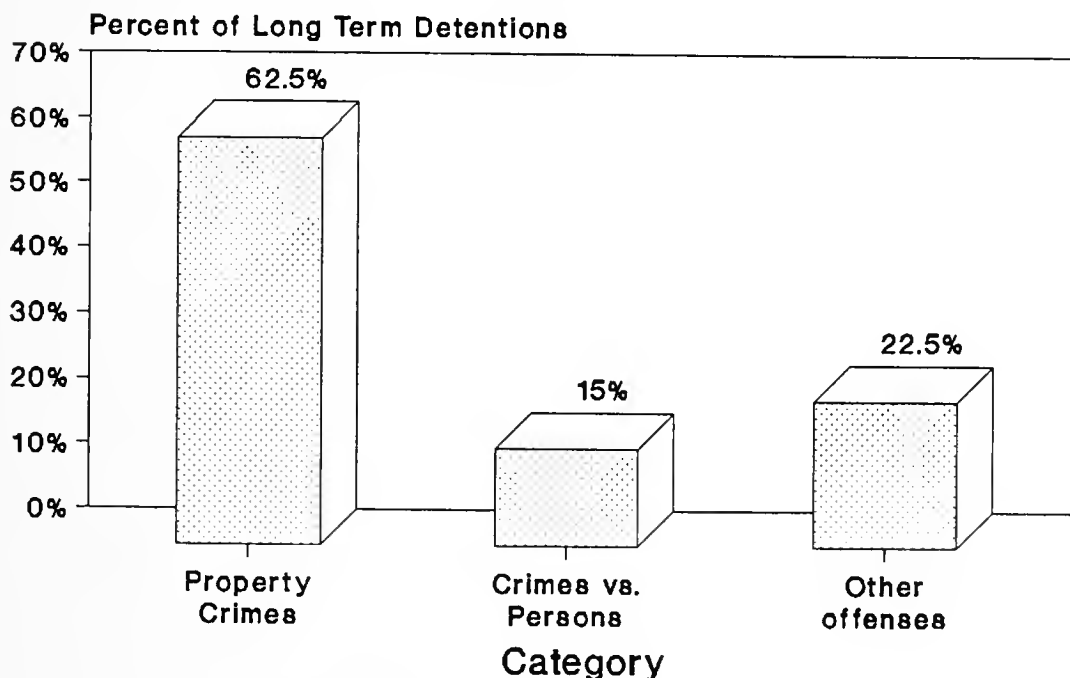
64.5% of the total 26,554 detention hrs.

## CRIME IN MONTANA - 1987

## REASON FOR LONG TERM DETENTION

The 80 youth held long term were placed into secure detention for a variety of offenses. The general reasons are shown in the chart below. The most frequent reason for detention is property crimes. Twelve of the property crimes were burglaries and 11 were felony theft crimes. The property offenses of burglary, felony theft (over \$300), misdemeanor theft, and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle account for 62.5% of the long term detentions. This pattern remained consistent with 1986.

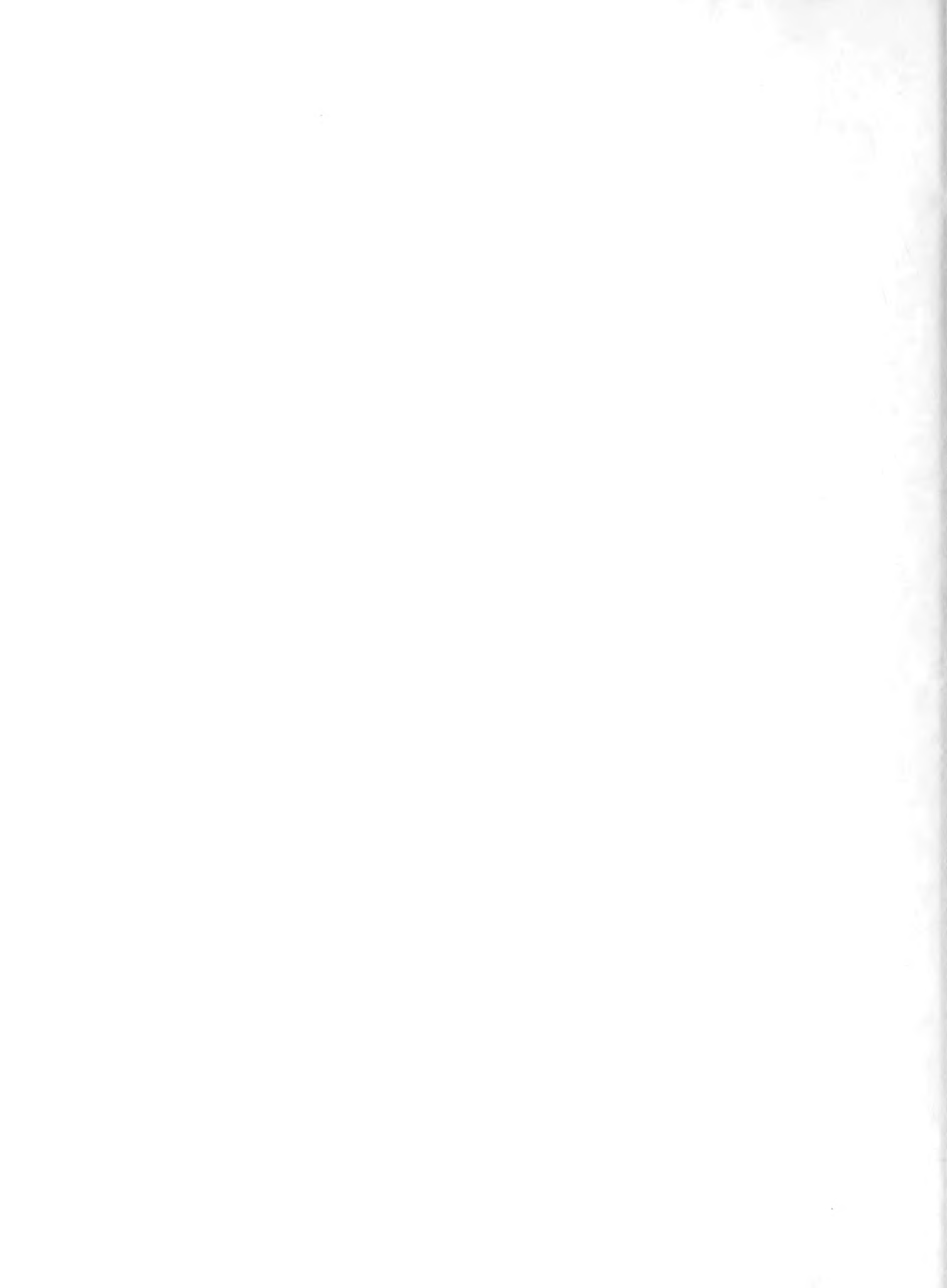
## Long Term Detentions By Offense Type



Other includes runaway, probation vio.,  
etc. N=80. Long term= 5 days +









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